

the Lions Club. Mr. Paul will continue many of his memberships and serve his community in numerous capacities.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have the opportunity to pay tribute to Mr. Dalton Paul for his noteworthy career and his impressive accomplishments at the Franklin County Career and Technology Center. His students, colleagues, and community will greatly miss his experience and leadership in the areas of vocational education. I wish him the very best in all of his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING MS. AMANDA BENNETT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 2003

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Ms. Amanda Bennett, a very special young woman who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part as a volunteer for synergy services' S.T.O.P. (Synergy Teen Outreach Program) Group.

Amanda was one of the founding members of S.T.O.P. who eagerly volunteered to be a part of Synergy's Youth Development Leadership Program. As a part of this important program, Amanda and other high school students have learned about Synergy's Mission to stop domestic violence and abuse and to help those that are in shelters. Among her many activities with the organization, Amanda has organized cookie decorating nights for the Children's Center, free haircuts for teens at the emergency shelter, and taking small children from the shelter to toy stores and dinner. Her accomplishments have had a profound effect on those who are in great need.

Most recently, Amanda received the National Network Youth Leadership Award. As the only youth to receive this prestigious award at the National Symposium Conference, I would like to commend Amanda on her sincere dedication to Synergy Services'. She is an excellent example of someone who is using their passion, motivation and skills to make their community a better place.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Ms. Amanda Bennett for her many important contributions to Synergy Services, her community and the 6th District of Missouri.

YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK
EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT ACT

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 2003

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I submitted the Yosemite National Park Education Improvement Act in the House of Representatives. The bill authorizes the Secretary of Interior to make available supplemental funding to assist local school districts in providing educational services for students attending three schools located within Yosemite National Park.

Since the devastating 1997 Merced River flood, there has been a dramatic reduction in

the number of employees in Yosemite National Park, and thus fewer school children attending these schools. With fewer and fewer children attending these schools, state dollars are reduced. The result is that the Park is attracting less than qualified candidates to work in the Park because families are not provided with adequate schools.

Furthermore, other existing federal funding sources are inadequate to meet the needs of the schools. PILT, payment in lieu of taxes, is available in both Mariposa and Madera counties where these schools exist and Impact Aid is accessible in Madera County, but—pursuant to current law—very few dollars actually are used to fund the classroom needs.

The situation is so bad for the schools that both the Superintendent of Yosemite National Park and the President of the Park concessionaire have pulled their children from the schools.

Mr. Speaker, I don't think we should stand by and permit children of Park Service and concessionaire employees from being deprived of their education simply because their parents have been asked by our government to work in Yosemite National Park. Precedence for assistance to schools located in national parks does exist. Yellowstone National Park had such a program established in the 1940's to ensure children of Park employees receive a quality education.

In addition to the language for Yosemite schools, the bill includes a provision to authorize the Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System, YARTS, facility outside of Yosemite National Park. This noncontroversial provision was added to the bill last Congress prior to passage in the in the Senate.

In closing, I believe the best long-term approach to the Yosemite schools' funding problems is the legislation I have proposed. The bill was approved by this body during the 107th Congress, and I look forward to working with my colleagues in the 108th Congress to once again approve the measure.

TRIBUTE TO GWENN KLINGLER

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 2003

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Representative Gwenn Klingler a resident of Springfield; she is married to Dr. Gerald Klingler and has two grown, married children and one grandson; she graduated from Ohio Wesleyan University and later received a master's degree in biology from the University of Michigan; she went on to receive a law degree with honors from George Washington University.

Representative Klingler served as an alderman on the Springfield City Council from 1991 to 1995 where she was chairman of the Public Safety Committee; she was twice elected to the Springfield District 186 School Board where she served from 1987 to 1991; she served as Board President in 1988.

Since first being elected to the House of Representatives in 1994, Representative Klingler has been regarded as a child's advocate; in 1998, she received the Daycare Action Award; she helped to pass the Foster Parents Bill of Rights; she has served as the

Spokesperson for the Children and Youth Committee of the House of Representatives; she was chief sponsor of the Sex Offender Registration bill and Public Act 92-137 ("Heather's Law") as well as House Resolution 63, which created the Illinois After School Initiative; she donated legislative scholarships to DCFS for foster children who are wards of the court.

Representative Klingler worked hard for State employees; she cosponsored the Early Retirement Plan for State Employees, which enabled State employees to retire as early as 50 years old, saving jobs and State money.

Representative Klingler consistently worked to bring State money to the 100th district; she sponsored the Springfield Medical District bill, which established a commission to create a master plan to redevelop the medical district neighborhood and expand existing healthcare facilities as well as attract new facilities.

Representative Klingler was instrumental in securing funding for a new classroom at the University of Illinois at Springfield; she was a major supporter of the construction process of the new Lincoln Presidential Library.

Representative Klingler has received community honors in recognition of her work; she received the Charlotte Danstron Award from Women-In-Management for the Women of Achievement in Government Award in 1994, and in 1996 received the Distinguished Leadership Award from Leadership Springfield that is sponsored by the Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce; she received the 1999 Legislative Leadership Award from the Illinois Alcoholism and Drug Dependence Association; further, she received the 1999 Goodwill, SPARC, and National Association for the Mentally Ill Award, the 2001 Anti-Hunger Advocate Award, and the 2002 Illinois Women in Government Award.

Representative Klingler remains active in the community and serves on a number of Springfield area community committees; she is a member of the Human Values and Ethics Committee at Memorial Hospital, the Chancellor's Advisory Committee at the University of Illinois at Springfield, and the Central Illinois Blood Bank Board; she is a member of The Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce, Women-In-Management, Springfield Rotary International, and the Sangamon County Medical Alliance.

We congratulate Representative Gwenn Klingler on a job well done and wish her and her family well in all of their future endeavors.

IN HONOR OF BISHOP BERTHA
MABLE MASSEY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 2003

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Bishop Bertha Mable Massey, resident Of Cleveland, on the joyous occasion of the celebration of her 106th birthday.

For over a century, Bishop Massey has devoted her life to her family, her faith, and her community. Well ahead of her time, Bishop Massey paved the way for women within the hierarchy of organized religion. She is the presiding Bishop of The House of God, and has jurisdiction over two states—Ohio and New Jersey.